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DE RUEHKU #0013 0111105 ZNR UUUUU ZZH R 111105Z JAN 10 FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4418 INFO RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS KUWAIT 000013

SENSITIVE SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA, TREASURY, COMMERCE/BIS/OIC, USTR JASON BUNTIN

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KBCT ECON ETRD KU

SUBJECT: GOK STATES NO RECENT ARAB LEAGUE BOYCOTT ISSUES

REF: A. REF: A: 09 KUWAIT 1156 ¶B. B: 09 STATE 120272

- 11. (SBU) Econoff met with Waleed Al-Sabej, the General Supervisor and Acting Director of Kuwait's Arab League Boycott office on December 30 to discuss recent activities (ref A). Al-Sabej confirmed that he attends the bi-annual Arab Boycott League meetings at the Damascus-headquartered office. However, Al-Sabej asserted that his role in these meetings is strictly limited to advocating on behalf of the GOK for the complete removal of enforcement of secondary and tertiary aspects of the Arab League Boycott (i.e., on U.S. firms with commercial ties to Israel).
- 12. (SBU) The Arab League Boycott Office consists of three people - Al-Sabej, a staffer and a secretary - and is located nearly thirty minutes from downtown Kuwait in Ahmadi. Al-Sabej stated that in 2009, his office had no boycott-related issues with U.S. firms. Al-Sabej denied that boycott-related language was present in any Kuwaiti tender documents when Econoff asked how often the language occurs. (Note: Anecdotal evidence would suggest such language may occur, although rarely. End Note.) Overall, Al-Sabej confirmed that there are no recent developments from his office concerning U.S. firms with either secondary or tertiary boycott issues.

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JONES